

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1223

Introduced by Assembly Member Block
(Principal coauthor: Senator Wiggins)

February 27, 2009

An act relating to teacher training.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1223, as introduced, Block. Teacher training: Legislative Analyst advisory committee.

Existing law authorizes the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to issue various types of teaching credentials.

This bill would express legislative findings and declarations relating to the educational value in both academic and career technical coursework. The bill would express the intent of the Legislature that high school courses provide pupils with rigorous learning experiences that will prepare them for postsecondary success and that both academic and career technical education teachers employ pedagogical strategies that will ensure pupil success.

The bill would require the Legislative Analyst's Office to convene an advisory committee to determine the preparation and professional development needs of both academic and career technical teachers. The bill would require the Legislative Analyst's Office to present the findings of the advisory committee to the Legislature by January 10, 2010.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

3 (1) There is inherent educational value in both academic and
4 career technical coursework. Both should be promoted. Both
5 academic and career technical courses are strengthened when they
6 are delivered in ways that mutually reinforce one another. All
7 pupils should have equal access to both types of coursework.

8 (2) Pupils need a range of educational experiences to prepare
9 them for success beyond high school.

10 (3) A foundation of academic knowledge, general workplace
11 competencies, and occupationally specific knowledge and skills
12 enables pupils to better access all postsecondary options.

13 (4) Most pupils achieve better subject mastery and technological
14 skills when they are enrolled in courses that use hands-on
15 experiential learning to exemplify how academic knowledge is
16 used to solve real world and industry-based problems.

17 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that both of the following
18 occur:

19 (1) High school courses provide pupils with rigorous learning
20 experiences that will prepare them for postsecondary success.

21 (2) Both academic and career technical education teachers
22 employ pedagogical strategies that will ensure pupil success.

23 SEC. 2. (a) The Legislative Analyst's Office shall convene an
24 advisory committee to accomplish all of the following:

25 (1) Determine the preparation and professional development
26 needs of both academic and career technical teachers, consistent
27 with the intent of the Legislature, as specified in Section 1.

28 (2) Provide recommendations for improving the ability of the
29 state's existing teacher training and professional development
30 programs to prepare academic teachers to incorporate real world
31 relevance and applied learning into the curriculum.

32 (3) Determine the best means of supporting the ongoing efforts
33 of career and technical education teachers to incorporate the
34 foundation standards established under career technical education
35 model curriculum standards and frameworks pursuant to Sections
36 51226 and 51226.1 of the Education Code.

37 (b) In developing its recommendations, the advisory committee
38 may consider best practices from other states or countries and

1 relevant education research on improving instruction. The advisory
2 committee also may consider the impact of increasing the use of
3 applied teaching and learning strategies on pupil performance.

4 (c) The Legislative Analyst's Office also may consult with
5 legislative staff.

6 (d) By January 10, 2010, the Legislative Analyst's Office shall
7 present the findings of the advisory committee to the Legislature.

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